

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://worcesterschools.zoom.us/j/85086313195?pwd=UTY3cjFKY0VWVWlp1UFhxTUxkbmN Qdz09>

Passcode: 132707

Telephone: US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 850 8631 3195

The following items will be discussed at a virtual meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building:

gb #9-355 - Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (October 23, 2019)

Request that the Administration explore the feasibility of providing bus transportation to secondary students that live less than 2 miles from school.

gb #0-33 - Mr. Foley/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (January 8, 2020)

To include a standing item for "Transportation Update" at each Finance and Operations committee meeting with information provided regarding the problems facing student transportation and improvements experienced.

gb #1-110 - Ms. Novick (March 31, 2021)

Request administration provide an update on student transportation.

(Consider these items together)

gb #1-101 - Mr. Foley (March 23, 2021)

To discuss the use of school buses operated solely on electric power either through acquisition, conversion or a combination of both.

gb 1-153.2 - Administration/Ms. Novick (June 28, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to hold C and D for discussion for the July 22, 2021 meeting:

- C. Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of bus drivers needed in order to appropriately fill the district needs. **Ms. Novick**
- D. Request that the Administration provide a report on whether Federal Grant funds may be used for the purchase of school buses. **Ms. Novick**

gb 1-153.4 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria (August 26, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a financial plan to include ways to use the ESSER funds, taxpayer levies, leasing and any other alternatives when operating the new bus system. **Mayor Petty**

(Continued on page 2.)

gb 1-153.4 (continued)

Request that the Administration seek a legal opinion to be provided at the September 2, 2021 meeting regarding representation of the Teamsters when hiring bus drivers.

Mayor Petty

Request that the Administration provide a report on the type of fuel that will be used to run the busses to include the benefits of using diesel fuel versus gas.

Miss Biancheria

(Consider these three items together.)

gb 1-204 - Administration (July 30, 2021)

To consider approval of the Building Use Fees Policy.

gb 1-208 - Administration (July 30, 2021)

To review the status of the FY22 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Committee Members

John L. Foley, Chair
Molly O. McCullough, Vice-Chair
Dianna L. Biancheria

Administrative
Representatives
Brian Allen

OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
20 IRVING STREET
WORCESTER, MA 01609

AGENDA #2

The Standing Committee on FINANCE AND OPERATIONS will hold a meeting:

on: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

at: 4:30 p.m.

virtually in: Room 410, Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #9-355 -Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo
(October 23, 2019)

Request that the Administration explore the feasibility of providing bus transportation to secondary students that live less than 2 miles from school.

ROS #0-6 -Administration (May 15, 2020)

UPDATE ON THE STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIS) PROCUREMENT PROJECT
– Center for Educational Leadership and Technology (CELT)

c&p #0-13 - Clerk (August 18, 2020)

To consider a communication from the Racism Free Worcester Public School Group regarding nine areas of concerns.

gb #0-33 - Mr. Foley/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (January 8, 2020)

To include a standing item for "Transportation Update" at each Finance and Operations committee meeting with information provided regarding the problems facing student transportation and improvements experienced.

gb #0-58 - Ms. Novick/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (January 29, 2020)

To discuss the proposal to move city polling locations into the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #1-44 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (January 26, 2021)

Request administration propose for Committee consideration a priority list of facilities projects to improve the health and safety of school buildings using the new Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.

gb #1-67 - Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (February 22, 2021)

To develop procedures for future school years surrounding field clearing and preparedness for Spring seasons, and any other seasons that may be applicable.

gb #1-101 - Mr. Foley (March 23, 2021)

To discuss the use of school buses operated solely on electric power either through acquisition, conversion or a combination of both.

gb #1-110 - Ms. Novick (March 31, 2021)

Request administration provide an update on student transportation.

gb #1-146.1 -Administration/Ms. Novick (June 8, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the motion to prepare a report on the cost for the entire district to be part of the BYRT Program and present that information at the Budget meeting in June.

gb 1-153.2 - Administration/Ms. Novick (June 28, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to hold C and D for discussion for the July 22, 2021 meeting:

- C. Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of bus drivers needed in order to appropriately fill the district needs. **Ms. Novick**
- D. Request that the Administration provide a report on whether Federal Grant funds may be used for the purchase of school buses. **Ms. Novick**

gb 1-153.4 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria (August 26, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a financial plan to include ways to use the ESSER funds, taxpayer levies, leasing and any other alternatives when operating the new bus system. **Mayor Petty**

Request that the Administration seek a legal opinion to be provided at the September 2, 2021 meeting regarding representation of the Teamsters when hiring bus drivers. **Mayor Petty**

Request that the Administration provide a report on the type of fuel that will be used to run the busses to include the benefits of using diesel fuel versus gas. **Miss Biancheria**

gb 1-204 - Administration (July 30, 2021)

To consider approval of the Building Use Fees Policy.

gb 1-208 - Administration (July 30, 2021)

To review the status of the FY22 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

gb #1-271 - Ms. Novick (September 29, 2021)

Provide opportunities for public input on the district's plans for Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief funding, as required by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

(motion) gb 1-237 - Miss Biancheria (September 23, 2021)

Request that the Grant expenditures be sent to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for further discussion.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Helen A. Friel, Ed.D.
Clerk of the School Committee

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo
(October 23, 2019)

Request that the Administration explore the feasibility of providing bus transportation to secondary students that live less than 2 miles from school.

PRIOR ACTION:

11-7-19 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the Administration response to the item.

The Worcester Public Schools provides transportation to students that reside more than two miles from the school that they attend. Safety considerations, primarily for elementary students, are also used for transportation eligibility. In the 2021-22 school year, the Worcester Public Schools planned to operate 101 big bus routes within the district (14/WPS and 87/Durham School Services) within this existing policy.

There are 1,085 secondary students that live between 1.5 miles and 2.0 miles from the school that they attend (289 middle school students and 796 high school students). Based on this number of eligible students, it would require an additional 24 big bus routes to transport this number of additional students. The cost for the Worcester Public Schools to perform this added transportation (at the WPS district-operated cost) would be \$1.6 million (compared to the Durham School Services cost of \$2.2 million).

There are an additional 1,391 secondary students that live between 1.0 miles and 1.5 miles from the school that they attend (an additional 338 middle school students and an additional 1,053 high school students). Based on this number of eligible students, it would require an additional 31 big bus routes (total of 55 added big buses) to transport this number of additional students. The cost for the Worcester Public Schools to perform this added transportation (at the WPS district-operated cost) would be \$3.6 million (compared to the Durham School Services cost of \$5.1 million).

1.5 miles and 2.0 miles	Eligible Students	Approx. Buses Needed	WPS Cost
Middle School	289	7	\$462,426
High School	<u>796</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>\$1,123,122</u>
Total	1,085	24	\$1,585,584

1.0 miles to 2.0 miles	Eligible Students	Approx. Buses Needed	WPS Cost
Middle School	627	15	\$990,990
High School	<u>1,849</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>\$2,642,640</u>
Total	2,476	55	\$3,633,630

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Mr. Foley/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (January 8, 2020)

To include a standing item for "Transportation Update" at each Finance and Operations committee meeting with information provided regarding the problems facing student transportation and improvements experienced.

PRIOR ACTION:

1-16-20 - Referred to the Administration.

2-6-20 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

aor #0-5 - Clerk

(January 29, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, January 16, 2020.

Mr. Foley made the following amendment to the minutes:

Request that referral for item gb #0-33 be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations instead of to the Administration. On a voice vote, the amendment was approved.

4-12-21 - STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Mr. Allen stated that the Administration meets weekly with representatives from Durham School Services to discuss the number of drivers that are available to the Worcester Public Schools. The number of buses needed will be based upon the number of students choosing to return to school or remaining remote.

Ms. McCullough wondered what the options would be in the event of a shortage.

Mr. Allen offered potential options which included:

- subcontracting drivers from other companies
- moving tiered school times around
- reducing the number of students who may be eligible for transportation

BACKUP: (Consider with gb #1-110.)

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the Student Transportation Update.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 4-12-21 - Mr. Allen stated that all WPS owned buses have been used every
(continued) day since the start of the school year.
Miss Biancheria made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide weekly transportation updates to include information from the Durham meetings and the status of Durham bus drivers.
On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.
Mr. Foley made the following motion:
Request that the Administration and School Committee work with the City Solicitor to produce a notice of Breach of Contract letter to be sent to Durham School Services highlighting the Breach of Contract reaffirming the Worcester Public Schools' legal and financial rights and raising the imperative nature of the May 3, 2021 return to school and the need to have the full allotment of bus drivers in place by that time.
On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Miss Biancheria), the motion was approved.
On a roll call of 3-0, the item was held for additional updates.
- 4-15-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING - The School Committee approved the actions of the Standing Committee as amended.
Mr. Foley made the following motion:
Request that the Administration and School Committee work with the City Solicitor to produce a notice of Breach of Contract letter to be sent to Durham School Services highlighting the Breach of Contract reaffirming the Worcester Public Schools' legal and financial rights and raising the imperative nature of the May 3, 2021 return to school and the need to have the full allotment of bus drivers in place by that time.
On a roll call of 5-2 (nays Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was approved:
Mr. Foley requested a vote to reconsider the motion.
On a roll call of 2-5 (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion for reconsideration was defeated.

WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TRANSPORTATION UPDATE
AS OF OCTOBER 19, 2021

Bus Driver Availability

The following is the availability of bus drivers from Durham School Services to the Worcester Public Schools on a weekly basis to date for the 2021-22 school year:

Date	Available Bus Drivers from Durham School Services*	Contracted Number of Drivers for 2021-22	Difference
8/26/2021	122	141	-19
9/8/2021	114	141	-27
9/15/2021	115	141	-26
9/21/2021	121	141	-20
10/12/2021	115	141	-26
10/19/2021	115	141	-26

*As reported by Durham School Services local management during weekly planning call with WPS Transportation Administration.

Use of National Guard Drivers

The district is working in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Massachusetts Army National Guard, and AA Transportation to provide eight vehicles and drivers to cover in-city special education bus routes due to the shortage of bus drivers for Durham School Services. (Durham School Services is responsible for providing a bus monitor for each van driven by the National Guard).

These eight van routes allowed Durham School Services to temporarily reassign 8 mid-size school bus drivers to cover vacancies or absences on big bus routes.

The National Guard service began on October 7, 2021, and is expected to continue until November 5, 2021, with the expectation that this bridge time would allow Durham School Services to hire and train enough bus drivers to then operate these routes.

An update of the National Guard program will be provided to the School Committee at the November 2021 Standing Committee on Finance and Operations monthly meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (March 31, 2021)

Request administration provide an update on student transportation.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 4-8-21 - Request administration provide an update on student transportation. Ms. Novick asked what the contractual agreement is for paying Durham School Services and their provision of services. Mr. Allen stated that due to the anticipation of the return to school model, which was originally scheduled for January 25th, the system started paying Durham School Services on December 1, 2020. This allowed them to get the busses inspected, their drivers back on schedule and everything they would need to begin transporting students. The system began paying for the drivers on January 4, 2021. The Administration continued to meet weekly with representatives from Durham School Services to discuss the numbers of drivers that they have available to the Worcester Public Schools which can range from 139 to 147 drivers. He also stated that more information will be provided on this topic at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on Monday, April 12, 2021.

(Continued on page 2.)

BACKUP: (Consider with gb #0-33.)

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

4-8-21 - Ms. Novick asked what the payment structure was in regards to
(continued) reimbursements from Durham School Services.

Mr. Allen stated that the agreement that was reached with Durham School Services was that the system would pay them no less than 50 percent of the 138 contracted busses. The intent of that method was to ensure some stability while schools were fully remote. On January 4, 2021, the system paid 77 percent of the daily rate which also guaranteed that the drivers got paid. The Worcester Public Schools is using fewer busses than anticipated. Therefore, the school system does receive some savings. The Administration's biggest challenge was combining bus routes which increased ridership on some busses. The planning for the students to return to school on May 3rd is going to be critical. Based on students' selection of returning to school or remaining remote the system to know the number of busses needed. The Administration has requested that Durham School Services provide, at the meeting on Tuesday the number of busses they can commit for May 3, 2021.

M. Foley asked if the Worcester Public Schools would be reimbursed from Durham School Services for the 13 weeks and the 36 bus driver vacancies that the system started paying for on January 4, 2021.

Mr. Allen stated that Durham School Services had submitted copies of their payroll which were verified during those weeks. The Administration is working with the Law Department to change the wording of the contract.

Mayor Petty requested that the Administration provide a detailed report regarding the current bus routes, the pickup and drop off bus stops and how many students missed the bus.

Mr. Foley stated that Mr. Allen would be providing that information for the meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on Monday, April 12th and it would be reported out at the full School Committee meeting on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent Ms. McCullough), the item was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

ITEM: gb #1-101

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Mr. Foley/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (March 23, 2021)

To discuss the use of school buses operated solely on electric power either through acquisition, conversion or a combination of both.

PRIOR ACTION:

4-8-21 - On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent Ms. McCullough), the item was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

BACKUP: (Consider with gb #1-153.2 and gb #1-153.4.)

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Administration/Ms. Novick (June 28, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to hold C and D for discussion for the July 22, 2021 meeting:

- C. Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of bus drivers needed in order to appropriately fill the district needs. (Ms. Novick)
- D. Request that the Administration provide a report on whether Federal Grant funds may be used for the purchase of school buses. (Ms. Novick)

PRIOR ACTION:

7-22-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Petty requested that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Charter Schools are no longer using Worcester Public Schools' bussing which will allow more flexibility to transport Worcester public school students.

Ms. Novick requested that the backup that the prior committee received regarding district transportation be included as backup for this item for the next meeting of the Standing on Finance and Operations.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the possible use of ESSER Funds to purchase school busses.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations. **(Continued on page 2.)**

BACKUP: (Consider with gb #1-101 and gb #1-153.4.)

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

8-18-21 - STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

(continued) Mr. Allen stated that currently the shortage of Durham bus drivers is 19 for 87 big busses.

Chairman Foley asked the Administration to address its plans for the shortage. Superintendent Binienda responded that she is continuing discussions with the Durham Regional Manager and Customer Service Manager and will be providing an update to the School Committee no later than Monday, August 23, 2021.

Mr. Allen stated that interviews to hire 5- 6 bus drivers are scheduled for this week.

Mr. Foley stated that with students returning full-time to schools, it will be difficult to re-route the busses and felt that there is not adequate time to assess the situation. He asked for an estimate of the absenteeism rate for Durham drivers to which Mr. Allen replied that the average is 10 drivers per day.

Mr. Allen reported that DESE has approved ESSER spending due to COVID as a justification to use those funds for bus transportation. He stated that the current status of the contract with Durham is a two year contract for FY21-22 with an option of a third year for FY23. Mr. Allen stated that the vote for the one year extension must be voted on by October 1, 2021.

Mr. Foley voiced his concerns regarding Durham management. He stated that some of the issues included but were not limited to:

- driver shortfalls
- not fulfilling route obligations
- lack of GPS software
- lack of communication with families

He also stated that if WPS had its own self-operating network, it would potentially:

- improve communication with families
- result in a 3 million dollar per year savings with potentially 4 million dollar savings if ESSER funds were used
- allow for a later start time for high schools
- result in a reduction of the current 2-mile requirement
- allow for an increase in funding other WPS programs
- reduce the cost of field trips

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee not exercise the third year option of the transportation contract with Durham School Services.

On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Miss Biancheria) the motion was approved.

Mr. Foley made the following motions:

Request that the Worcester Public Schools take responsibility for the operations of transportation services beginning with the end of the 2021-22 school year.

Request that the School Committee direct the Administration to immediately begin to build the additional support to effectively run the transportation network including the recruitment, hiring and training of bus drivers.

Request that the Worcester Public Schools use existing ESSER funding to acquire the vehicles necessary to run the transportation system.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 8-18-21 - Superintendent Binienda stated that she did not agree with the way in which (continued) this information was introduced. She said that the School Committee voted against a self-operating bus system in 2019 and that motion saved the budget. She further indicated that Durham has been a good partner and that the shortage of busses is a nationwide issue. That issue would not change if WPS were to run its own system. She strongly indicated that ESSER funding should not be used for the purchase of busses but rather for much needed programs for students in the WPS.
She stated that Durham has offered to work with the WPS to make the transportation system successful. It recommended that the WPS could purchase one-half of the needed busses and Durham would purchase the other half of buses for one year.
- 8-26-21 - **STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**
Miss Biancheria made the following motions:
Request that the Administration consider giving Durham bus drivers priority when hiring WPS drivers.
Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of purchasing busses from Durham.
Request that the Administration utilize the Allegro building and provide a comprehensive cost analysis to include maintenance and fuel costs.
Request that the WPS understand that Durham drivers are currently represented by the Teamsters Local 170 and that WPS drivers are currently represented by the Educational Association of Worcester.
Request that all Job Descriptions for prospective employees of the self-operating network be provided to the School Committee.
Mr. Foley made the following amendment to Miss Biancheria's motion:
Request that the Administration report back monthly to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on the progress being made to move to a self-operating system to include staffing, capital expenditures and location costs.
On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.
- 8-26-21 - **SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING** - The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended.
On a roll call of 6-1, (nay Mr. Monfredo), the Finance and Operations Action Sheets were approved as amended.
(The following motions were taken collectively).
Mayor Petty made the following motions:
Request that the Administration provide a financial plan to include ways to use the ESSER funds, taxpayer levies, leasing and any other alternatives when operating the new bus system.
Request that the Administration seek a legal opinion, to be provided at the September 2, 2021 meeting, regarding the role of the School Committee as to the continuation of representation of the Teamsters when hiring bus drivers.
Miss Biancheria made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide a report on the type of fuel that will be used to run the busses to include the benefits of using diesel fuel versus gas.
On a voice vote, the motions were approved.
(The following motions were taken separately).
Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:
Request that the Administration review the needs of students first before embarking on the purchasing of busses.
On a roll call of 2-5, (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

8-26-21 - Request that the Administration schedule an independent audit to assess the
(continued) costs of running a bus company.
On a roll call of 2-5, (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.
It was moved and voice voted to suspend the rules to reconsider the votes from the two Finance and Operations meetings.
On a roll call of 1-6, (yea Mr. Monfredo), the motion to reconsider was defeated.

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria (August 26, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a financial plan to include ways to use the ESSER funds, taxpayer levies, leasing and any other alternatives when operating the new bus system.
Mayor Petty

Request that the Administration seek a legal opinion to be provided at the September 2, 2021 meeting regarding representation of the Teamsters when hiring bus drivers.
Mayor Petty

Request that the Administration provide a report on the type of fuel that will be used to run the busses to include the benefits of using diesel fuel versus gas.
Miss Biancheria

PRIOR ACTION:

6-3-21 – (Continued on page 2.)

BACKUP: (Consider with gb #1-101 and gb #1-153.2.)

Annex A (3 pages) contains a copy of the district-operated student transportation monthly update

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

7-22-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Petty requested that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Charter Schools are no longer using Worcester Public Schools' bussing which will allow more flexibility to transport Worcester public school students.

Ms. Novick requested that the backup that the prior committee received regarding district transportation be included as backup for this item for the next meeting of the Standing on Finance and Operations.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the possible use of ESSER Funds to purchase school busses.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

8-18-21 - STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Mr. Allen stated that currently the shortage of Durham bus drivers is 19 for 87 big busses.

Chairman Foley asked the Administration to address its plans for the shortage. Superintendent Binienda responded that she is continuing discussions with the Durham Regional Manager and Customer Service Manager and will be providing an update to the School Committee no later than Monday, August 23, 2021.

Mr. Allen stated that interviews to hire 5- 6 bus drivers are scheduled for this week.

Mr. Foley stated that with students returning full-time to schools, it will be difficult to re-route the busses and felt that there is not adequate time to assess the situation. He asked for an estimate of the absenteeism rate for Durham drivers to which Mr. Allen replied that the average is 10 drivers per day.

Mr. Allen reported that DESE has approved ESSER spending due to COVID as a justification to use those funds for bus transportation. He stated that the current status of the contract with Durham is a two year contract for FY21-22 with an option of a third year for FY23. Mr. Allen stated that the vote for the one year extension must be voted on by October 1, 2021.

Mr. Foley voiced his concerns regarding Durham management. He stated that some of the issues included but were not limited to:

- driver shortfalls
- not fulfilling route obligations
- lack of GPS software
- lack of communication with families

He also stated that if WPS had its own self-operating network, it would potentially:

- improve communication with families
- result in a 3 million dollar per year savings with potentially 4 million dollar savings if ESSER funds were used
- allow for a later start time for high schools
- result in a reduction of the current 2-mile requirement
- allow for an increase in funding other WPS programs
- reduce the cost of field trips

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 8-18-21 - Mr. Foley made the following motion:
(continued) Request that the School Committee not exercise the third year option of the transportation contract with Durham School Services.
On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Miss Biancheria) the motion was approved.
Mr. Foley made the following motions:
Request that the Worcester Public Schools take responsibility for the operations of transportation services beginning with the end of the 2021-22 school year.
Request that the School Committee direct the Administration to immediately begin to build the additional support to effectively run the transportation network including the recruitment, hiring and training of bus drivers.
Request that the Worcester Public Schools use existing ESSER funding to acquire the vehicles necessary to run the transportation system.
On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.
Miss Biancheria made the following motions:
Request that the Administration give Durham bus drivers priority when hiring WPS drivers.
Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of purchasing busses from Durham.
Request that the Administration utilize the Allegro building and provide a comprehensive cost analysis to include maintenance and fuel costs.
Request that the WPS understand that Durham drivers are represented by the Teamsters Local 170 and that WPS drivers will be represented by the Educational Association of Worcester.
Request that all Job Descriptions for prospective employees of the self-operating network be provided to the School Committee.
Mr. Foley made the following amendment to Miss Biancheria's motion:
Request that the Administration report back monthly to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on the progress being made to move to a self-operating system to include staffing, capital expenditures and location costs.
Superintendent Binienda stated that she did not agree with the way in which this information was introduced. She said that the School Committee voted against a self-operating bus system in 2019 and that motion saved the budget. She further indicated that Durham has been a good partner and that the shortage of busses is a nationwide issue. That issue would not change if WPS were to run its own system. She strongly indicated that ESSER funding should not be used for the purchase of busses but rather for much needed programs for students in the WPS.
She stated that Durham has offered to work with the WPS to make the transportation system successful. It recommended that the WPS could purchase one-half of the needed busses and Durham would purchase the other half of buses for one year.
On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.
- 8-26-21 - STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OPERATIONS
Miss Biancheria made the following motions:
Request that the Administration consider giving Durham bus drivers priority when hiring WPS drivers.
Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of purchasing busses from Durham.
Request that the Administration utilize the Allegro building and provide a comprehensive cost analysis to include maintenance and fuel costs.
Request that the WPS understand that Durham drivers are currently represented by the Teamsters Local 170 and that WPS drivers are currently represented by the Educational Association of Worcester.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 8-26-21 - Request that all Job Descriptions for prospective employees of the self-operating network be provided to the School Committee.
(continued) Mr. Foley made the following amendment to Miss Biancheria's motion:
Request that the Administration report back monthly to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on the progress being made to move to a self-operating system to include staffing, capital expenditures and location costs.
On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.
- 8-26-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING – The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended.
It was moved and voice voted to suspend the rules to allow Steve Schmuck, Durham Vice President of Operations and Jennifer O'Connor to speak to an item from the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations which met virtually on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building, and on Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 3:45 p.m. in the Esther Howland Chamber at City Hall.
Mr. Schmuck requested that the Worcester Public Schools consider a third year option with its contract with Durham Bus Services.
Superintendent Binienda stated that she does not recommend that the district take over its own bus company. She questioned the statements being made that there have been ongoing problems with Durham management, as she has been the contact person with them. She believes that Durham and the WPS should continue to work collaboratively. She feels that with a nationwide bus shortage and the pandemic, this is not the time to switch to a self-operated bus system. She also stated that ESSER funding was to be used for providing for student needs, not for the purchasing of busses. She spoke with Bill Bell at DESE and he also does not recommend using the ESSER funding although it is allowable.
Mr. Monfredo stated that owning its own bus company is not the mission of the WPS.
Mayor Petty relinquished the chair at 4:40 p.m. to Vice-Chairman Foley in order to speak to the item.
Mayor Petty stated that he understands the concerns, but noted that WPS currently has its own busses and feels that experience is beneficial. He believes that if the WPS were in control of all the busses, there might be less problems.
Mayor Petty returned to chair the meeting at 4:45 p.m.
Miss Biancheria stated that in 2019 she was not in favor of the WPS owning and operating its own bus system, but felt that over the last two years and with the purchase of the Allegro building, that the Administration has set itself up for a successful transition to owning its own bus system.
Miss Biancheria asked Administration for the results from the 2019 request to provide an audit to which Superintendent Binienda responded that due to COVID, the district was unable to locate a company willing to do an independent audit.
Ms. Novick stated that an enormous number of student hours have been missed due to transportation issues. She feels that these issues are disrespectful to students, teachers, families and drivers. She wanted to note that evaluating cost benefits is a core function of the Finance and Operations department and they did what was asked of them.
Ms. McCullough felt that the 2019 defeated vote was so that the district could assess the financial implications of a self-operating system and to allow Durham the opportunity to fix the problems. She still receives complaints from parents regarding the lack of a GPS system.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

8-26-21 - Mr. Foley stated that he and the other School Committee members have been
(continued) receiving calls from families because Durham was not available to take them.

He also stated that the cost analysis can be done by taking the number of current WPS owned busses and expanding that information to the number of new busses and build a safe buffer.

Ms. O'Connor, a bus driver for Durham, stated that many of the problems encountered were due to the way in which WPS schedules the routes.

On a roll call of 6-1, (nay Mr. Monfredo), the Finance and Operations Action Sheets were approved as amended.

(The following motions were taken collectively).

Mayor Petty made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a financial plan to include ways to use the ESSER funds, taxpayer levies, leasing and any other alternatives when operating the new bus system.

Request that the Administration seek a legal opinion, to be provided at the September 2, 2021 meeting, regarding the role of the School Committee as to the continuation of representation of the Teamsters when hiring bus drivers.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the type of fuel that will be used to run the busses to include the benefits of using diesel fuel versus gas.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

(The following motions were taken separately).

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration review the needs of students first before embarking on the purchasing of busses.

On a roll call of 2-5, (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.

Request that the Administration schedule an independent audit to assess the costs of running a bus company.

On a roll call of 2-5, (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.

It was moved and voice voted to suspend the rules to reconsider the votes from the two Finance and Operations meetings.

On a roll call of 1-6, (yea Mr. Monfredo), the motion to reconsider was defeated.

9-2-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICT-OPERATED STUDENT TRANSPORTATION MONTHLY UPDATE
OCTOBER 2021

Bus Driver Recruitment

The Worcester Public Schools has been working in close partnership with MassHire and the WPS Night Life Program for recruitment and training of potential school bus drivers.

As of October 18, 2021, the Worcester Public Schools have **21 people actively in training**: 15 pursuing CDL driver's license permit, and 6 with CDL permits training for school bus licensure.

An additional 16 candidates are currently being screened and interviewed for the start of a new Night Life class tentatively scheduled to begin on November 2, 2021.

Additional recruitment and training are on-going and further updates will be reported in subsequent reports to the School Committee.

School Bus Vehicle Procurement

The district issued a bid for the purchase of vehicles on Monday, October 18, 2021 with a bid closing date of Wednesday, October 27, 2021.

The bid is for the following vehicles:

- 100 Type C – 71 passenger School Buses (gasoline)
These are the same type of buses currently in use by the WPS.
- 38 Type A Mid-Size School Bus (gasoline)
These are the same type of buses currently in use by the WPS.
- 27 Type A Wheelchair School Bus (gasoline)

The district has submitted the purchase of these buses through ESSER III funding. As of October 18, 2021, the district's ESSER III application is still under review by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Alternatively, the WPS CFO is pursuing with the City of Worcester CFO the potential of the City of Worcester issuing capital equipment debt for the purchase of these vehicles with the WPS funding the purchase over a five-year payback period. If this procurement method is needed, a loan authorization would need to be approved by the Worcester City Council.

These two procurement options would be in lieu of lease/lease purchase options that has been considered as part of the district's cost analysis.

A copy of the vehicle bid and vehicle specifications can be reviewed on the City of Worcester's Purchasing Department website, or here: http://www.worcesterma.gov/finance/purchasing-bids/bids/bid-details?field1=nDYASrXB7c6F_ewuLVgo7Q

Vehicle delivery is expected by June 1, 2022, although the district will accept vehicles sooner as they become available.

Further Discussion for Vehicles in the Future:

- **Safety Features on New Buses:** The school bus specifications include new features designed for improved safety, including active collision mitigation and illuminated stop arm and School Bus exterior signage. Each bus will have new tablet technology providing automated route guidance and adjustments, as well as the capability of student bus pass with RFID technology in the future. The Versatrans MyStop bus location mobile access application will be operational on all WPS buses next year.
- **A Move Towards Alternative Fuel:** The Finance and Operations Administration recommends that the district explore alternative fueled vehicles (propane or electric) in the future starting with the replacement of existing WPS leased vehicles, after full consideration of up-front cost, infrastructure needed, maintenance, and training. [*consider this with item gb#1-101*]
- **Fueling Options:** The property lease specifications allowed for the possibility for onsite or nearby fueling of school buses. The district currently uses the DPW fuel pumps on Albany Street. The Administration is exploring the feasibility of having a dedicated fuel location for the up to the 335 vehicles (school buses, Facilities vehicles, and Nutrition vehicles) at or near the 115 Northeast Cutoff location.
- **Vehicle Replacement Plan and Schedule:** In the upcoming months, the Administration will provide the School Committee a 15-year vehicle replacement plan for all existing and newly purchased vehicles to be used to inform future budget and vehicle type decisions.

Support Staff

The District-Operated Transportation Cost Analysis Report (gb #9-59, September 2019) assumed four additional mechanics, one operations supervisor, one transportation liaison, and one Human Resources liaison. Additional supervisory trainers are recommended within the identified savings to enhance school, parent, and student customer experience (page 7).

Positions to be added During FY22

- Human Resources Liaison (to be called Transportation Personnel Supervisor)
- Transportation Systems Coordinator (new position from budget savings)
- Transportation Safety and Training Liaison (3) (from budget savings as identified in report)
- Transportation Safety Supervisor (from budget savings as identified in report)

Positions to be added for FY23:

- Four Mechanics
- Operations Supervisor
- Transportation Liaison

The Transportation Personnel Supervisor will support the WPS Human Resources Department and oversee the onboarding process of approximately 220 new drivers and bus monitors over the course of the next ten months. Long term, the position will support all personnel functions for the more than 350 employees of the Transportation Department.

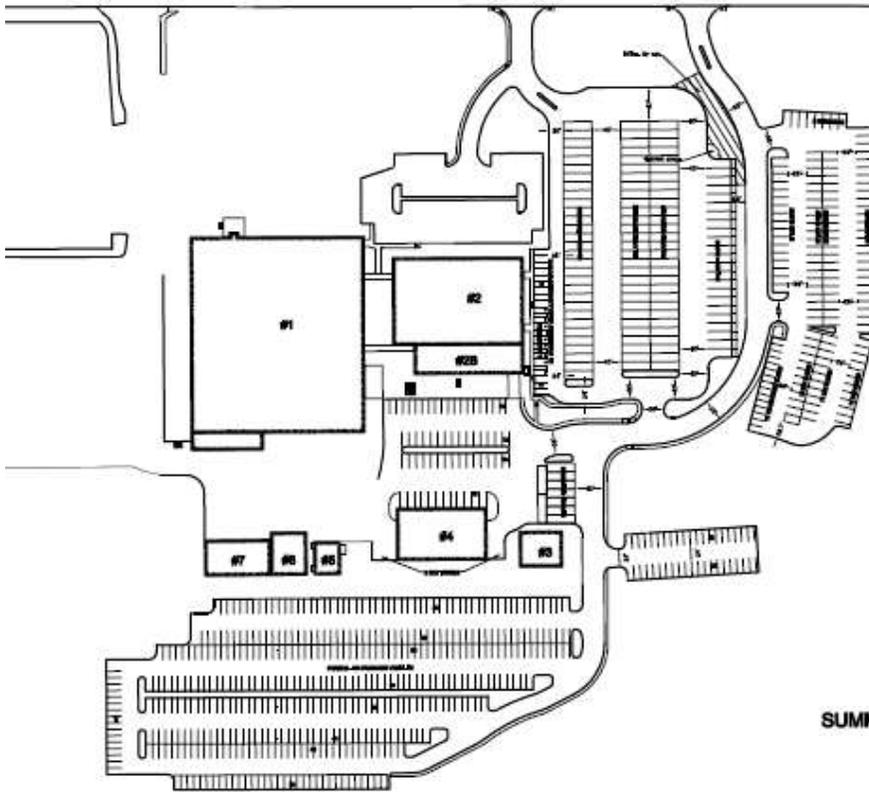
The Transportation Systems Coordinator is a new information technology support position that will assist with the implementation of the MyStop application, support the technology on the school buses (tablets and cameras), as well as maintaining the technology infrastructure (servers and equipment) of the Transportation Department.

The Transportation Safety and Training Liaison (3) and Transportation Safety Supervisor (from budget savings as identified in cost analysis report) will provide immediate support to the licensing and training of the new candidates for bus drivers. Each bus driver candidate must complete up to 28 classroom hours and 32 individual driving hours. As an example, at 50 driver candidates would require 1,600 individual driving hours, or 40 weeks of training. Additional trainers will allow the candidates to the opportunity to complete their training much sooner and be eligible for employment and to drive much sooner for the district. These positions are needed immediately to support the number of bus drivers needed to address the current shortfall of drivers. In the future, the field-based supervisors will conduct all on-board supervision and training of existing drivers, address all on-site bus loading and unloading issues at schools, evaluate and address and bus stop location concerns, respond to any incident involving school buses, as well as providing any other field support and supervision for drivers.

The job descriptions for the new positions will be included on the next available School Committee agenda.

Property Lease

The property at 115 NE Cutoff has adequate space for the additional parking needed to support the vehicles to be acquired as part of the district-operated transportation model. The cost analysis provides for the funding needed for this additional space. The Administration is working with the property owner and the City of Worcester Law Department on an amendment to the lease documents to provide for the additional parking spaces. The following is a schematic drawing of the property overview with the added parking spaces included.



SUMMARY OF VEHICLES SHOWN FOR WPS:
121 LARGE BUSES:
128 MID BUSES
5 BOX TRUCKS
560 OTHER VEHICLES
(TRUCKS, VANS, CARS)
TOTAL = 814

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Administration (July 30, 2021)

To consider approval of the Building Use Fees Policy.

PRIOR ACTION:

8-26-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Novick requested that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for deliberation.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

BACKUP:

Annex A (4 pages) contains a copy of the Building Use Fees.

SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL - BUILDING USE

AREA	NON-PROFIT	PROFIT	BENEFACTOR*
Brian A. O'Connell Auditorium	\$400.0	\$500.0	\$300.0
John Whalen Gymnasium	\$350.0	\$400.0	\$300.0
Conference Center	\$200.0	\$250.0	\$150.0
Library	\$150.0	\$200.0	\$100.0
Cafeteria**	\$250.0	\$300.0	\$200.0
Music Room	\$100.0	\$150.0	\$60.0
Music Practice Room	\$100.0	\$150.0	\$60.0
Computer Lab	\$100.0	\$150.0	\$70.0
Art Room (No Supplies Included)	\$150.0	\$200.0	\$100.0
Multi Purpose Room	\$180.0	\$105.0	\$60.0
Classroom	\$50.0	\$80.0	\$40.0

Note: A/V Tech, Site Administrator and Custodial Services will be billed at a flat hourly rate determined annually by the Business Office.

Currently charges are: \$40.00 per hour for A/V Tech and Site Administrator and \$50.00 per hour for each Custodian

*Recognized individuals or entities that provide financial resources for the construction of or equipment for NHS.

**If kitchen equipment is to be used, an additional \$100 per hour will apply for equipment usage, utilities, and

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL - BUILDING USE

AREA	NON-PROFIT	PROFIT	BENEFACTOR*
Auditorium (Seating Capacity 421}	\$200.0	\$300.0	\$100.0
Gymnasium (1000 Seat Capacity}	\$250.0	\$300.0	\$200.0
Cafeteria *** (Student seating space only} (Capacity 400}	\$100.0	\$150.0	\$75.0
Library (80 Seat Capacity}	\$75.0	\$100.0	\$50.0
Music Room (40 Seat Capacity}	\$50.0	\$75.0	\$30.0
Music Practice Room (4 Rooms capacity 1 per room}	\$50.0	\$75.0	\$30.0
Art Room (No supplies included}	\$75.0	\$100.0	\$50.0
Drama Classroom {Capacity 35)	\$50.0	\$75.0	\$30.0
All Other	\$20.0	\$30.0	\$15.0

Note: A/V Tech, Site Administrator and Custodial Services will be billed at a flat hourly rate determined annually by the Business Office.

Currently charges are: \$40.00 per hour for A/V Tech and Site Administrator and \$50.00 per hour for each Custodian

•Recognized individuals or entities that provide financial resources for the construction of or equipment for NHS.

***If kitchen equipment is to be used, an additional \$100 per hour will apply for equipment usage, utilities, and

WORCESTER TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL - BUILDING

AREA	NON-PROFIT	PROFIT	BENEFACTOR*
The George F. and Sybil H.			
Fuller Auditorium (Seating Capacity 770}	\$300.0	\$400.0	\$200.0
Gymnasium (1000 Seat Capacity)	\$250.0	\$300.0	\$200.0
The Harrington			
Conference Center {50 Seat Capacity)	\$150.0	\$200.0	\$100.0
Conference Center Full {150 Seat Capacity)	\$100.0	\$150.0	\$75.0
Conference Center Half {75 Seat Capacity)	\$50.0	\$75.0	\$35.0
Cafeteria	\$150.0	\$200.0	\$100.0
Computer	\$50.0	\$75.0	\$35.0
Multi Purpose Room {50 Seat Capacity)	\$40.0	\$55.0	\$30.0
Classroom	\$25.0	\$40.0	\$20.0

Note: A/V Tech, Site Administrator and Custodial Services will be billed at a flat hourly rate determined annually by the Business Office.

Currently charges are: \$40.00 per hour for A/V Tech and Site Administrator and \$50.00 per hour for each Custodian

*Recognized individuals or entities that provide financial resources for the construction of or equipment for NHS.

**If kitchen equipment is to be used, an additional \$100 per hour will apply for equipment usage, utilities, and kitchen supervisor.

LICENSING FEES

The schedule of the fees will be as follows:

AREA	NON-PROFIT	PROFIT	OTHER*
Auditoriums			
All Junior and Senior High School's Auditoriums	\$55.00 per hour plus custodial service.	\$80.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$100.00 per hour, plus custodial services.
Elementary Auditorium	\$40.00 per hour plus custodial service	\$65.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$85.00 per hour, plus custodial services
All "All Purpose Rooms"	\$42.00 first two hours, plus custodial service. \$20.00 each additional hour.	\$63.00 first two hours, plus custodial services. \$30.00 each additional hour.	\$75.00 first two hours, plus custodial services. \$45.00 each additional hour.
<u>Gymnasium</u>			
All Senior, Junior and Community School Gymnasium (Games)	\$70.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$100.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$125.00 per hour, plus custodial services.
Elementary Gymnasium	\$30.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$46.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$60.00 per hour, plus custodial services.
<u>Basketball Practice (two hours only)</u>	\$20.00 Monday-Friday, plus custodial services.	\$28.00 Monday-Friday, plus custodial services.	\$40.00 Monday-Friday, plus custodial services.
<u>All Classrooms</u>	\$8.00 per hour, per room plus custodial services.	\$12.00 per hour, per room plus custodial services.	\$15.00 per hour, per room plus custodial services.
<u>Cafeterias, Libraries, Music & Art Rooms</u>	\$38.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$60.00 per hour, plus custodial services.	\$75.00 per hour, plus custodial services.
<u>Dressing Rooms</u>	\$20.00 per hour, plus custodial services		

*Groups which schedule continuous regular use for periods exceeding six months in duration.

CUSTODIAN: \$50/HR. SITE ADMINISTRATOR: \$40/HR. AV TECH SUPPORT: \$40/HR.

ITEM: gb #1-208

STANDING COMMITTEE: **FINANCE AND OPERATIONS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

ITEM: Administration (August 10, 2021)

To review the status of the FY22 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

PRIOR ACTION:

8-26-21 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

BACKUP:

Annex A (3 pages) contains a copy of the FY22 Budget First Quarter Budget Status Report.

Annex B (1 page) contains a copy of the FY22 Budget Account Summary First Quarter Report.

**WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 FY22 BUDGET
 FIRST QUARTER BUDGET STATUS REPORT**

The status of all Salary and Ordinary Maintenance accounts as of September 30, 2021 are shown in Annex B. Presented for each account is the amount budgeted for the current fiscal year, the amount expended or committed as of September 30th, and the projected balance at the closing on June 30, 2022. Salary and Ordinary Maintenance Account totals are:

<u>Budget Title</u>	<u>Budget Amount</u>	<u>Expended or Encumbered 09/30/21</u>	<u>Projected Balance 06/30/22</u>
Salaries	\$252,130,930	\$26,777,928	-\$1,107,389
Ordinary Maintenance	<u>\$136,341,124</u>	<u>\$85,850,509</u>	<u>\$1,156,321</u>
Total General Fund	\$386,215,142	\$112,628,437	\$48,932
Final State Budget Increase	<u>\$2,256,946</u>	-	
Total General Fund Status	\$388,472,088		

At this point in the fiscal year, a total of \$112,628,437 (29%) has been expended or committed. A description of the projected balances is as follows:

On July 16, 2021, the Governor and State Legislature adopted the FY22 Chapter 70 Aid for school districts as part of the state budget. The final state budget reflects an increase of \$2.3 million over the budget amounts adopted by the School Committee in June. As part of the use ESSER funds to support "hold harmless funding" (maintain existing programs, positions, and services in anticipation of the return of students after an unprecedented, pandemic related enrollment decline). Kindergarten Instructional Assistants will be restored to the general fund using this increased final state budget allocation as planned in the budget book (once adopted as part of the final city budget following the tax rate setting process).

The following accounts have budget changes based on current operating conditions for the current school year:

Accounts with Budget Impacts:

Teacher Substitute Salaries Account 500-91114 (-\$1,384,412): This account includes the addition of 68 building-based substitutes beginning in December through the end of the school year. This is due to the shortage of day-by-day substitutes, as well as instructional assistants that provide daily coverage to classrooms.

Building Utilities Account 500146-92000 (-\$446,006): The projected deficit in this account reflects the changes of the City of Worcester's new gas supply contract. The City will be utilizing the Eversource default rate and will be reassessing the market conditions prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

Teacher Salaries Account 500-91111 (-\$514,585): This account the addition of three special education teachers within the district and one culinary teacher for South High school and a pending Level 4 settlement with the EAW. The account also reflects the change of five vacant English language learner teachers that were reallocated to supervisory positions within the Administration Salaries Account (500-91110). This account also includes approximately eighty (80) vacant teaching positions through end of September and the projection includes the cost of staggered replacement of these positions through the end of the school year.

Administration Salaries Account 500-91110 (-\$313,901): This account represents the reallocation of five vacant English language learner teaching positions that have been converted to four English language learner Supervisor positions. This accounts also includes an additional substitute building principal position necessary for school leadership coverage.

Transportation Salaries 540-91117 (-\$306,955): The account reflects the hiring of additional bus drivers and support staff using Transportation Account savings below in preparation for district-operated transportation next year. The account reflects 21 bus driver positions and six support staff positions to be filled as soon as possible.

Non-Instructional Salaries Account 500-91123 (-\$232,441): This account reflects the reallocation of the Building Assessment Coordinator that has been transferred from the Maintenance Salaries Account (500-91120), a new Assessment & Performance Specialist position located in the Office of School and Student Performance, and the addition of two IT Support Specialist positions to assist with increased technology supports.

Administrative Clerical Salaries Account 500-91121 (-\$92,419): This account reflects the reallocation of the Work Specialist position that has been transferred from the Maintenance Salaries Account (500-91120), as well as a new clerical position for the Office of Diversity.

Accounts with Projected Balances to Offset Deficit Accounts:

Transportation Account 540103-92000 (\$1,018,633): The projected balance in this account represents the twenty-seven bus routes that Durham School Services not currently providing through the end of December.

Instructional Assistant Salaries Account 500-91115 (\$739,966): The projected balance in this account includes the restoring of Kindergarten Instructional Assistants through the State’s final budget allocation. This account includes approximately eighty-seven (87) vacant positions through end of September and the projection includes the cost of replacement positions through the end of the school year.

Maintenance Salaries Account 500-91120 (\$373,914): The projected balance in this account represents several vacant positions through the end of September, as well as the reallocation of the Building Assessment Coordinator position that has been transferred to the Non-Instructional Salaries Account (500-91123) and the Work Specialist position that has been transferred to the Administrative Clerical Account (500-91121). The projection includes the cost of replacement positions through the end of the school year, however while these positions remain vacant, some district maintenance may be provided by vendor services as needed.

Based on the First Quarter Budget Status Report, the Administration recommends the following actions:

Amount	From Account	Account Title	To Account	Account Title
\$400,000	500-91111	Teacher Salaries	500-91110	Administrative Salaries
\$140,000	500-91120	Maintenance Salaries	500-91123	Non-Instructional Salaries
\$50,000	500-91120	Maintenance Salaries	500-91121	Administrative Clerical Salaries
\$100,000	540103-92000	Transportation	540103-93000	Transportation

The following table represents paid positions through the end of the first quarter:

<u>Account Title</u>	<u>FY22 Budget</u>	<u>Paid 09/25/21</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Administration Salaries	119	117	-2
Teacher Salaries	2,547	2,467	-80
Instructional Assistants Salaries	659	572	-87
Transportation Salaries	126	109	-17
Custodial Salaries	158	146	-12
Maintenance Service Salaries	28	18	-10
Administrative Clerical Salaries	67	63	-4
School Clerical Salaries	77	70	-7
Non-Instructional Salaries	56	56	0
School Nurse Salaries	110	104	-6
Educational Support Salaries	104	48	-56
Totals	4,051	3,770	-281

The first quarter report reflects the following new positions included in the general fund approved by the Superintendent.

Account	Account Title	Positions
500-91111	Teacher Salaries	Special Education Teachers (3)
500-91111	Teacher Salaries	Culinary Teacher - SHS
500-91121	Administrative Clerical Salaries	52 Administrative Clerical - Diversity Officer
500-91123	Non-Instructional Salaries	Assessment & Performance Specialist
500-91123	Non-Instructional Salaries	IT Support Specialists (2)

**WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 2021-2022 BUDGET ACCOUNT SUMMARY
 FIRST QUARTER REPORT**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Transfer</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Expended or Encumbered</u>	<u>Balance</u>
500-91110	Administration Salaries	\$14,406,265		\$14,406,265	\$3,431,959	-\$313,901
500-91111	Teacher Salaries	\$189,377,358		\$189,377,358	\$15,387,747	-\$514,585
500-91112	School Committee Salaries	\$99,626		\$99,626	\$24,656	\$0
500-91114	Teacher Substitutes Salaries	\$1,583,050		\$1,583,050	\$62,324	-\$1,384,412
500-91115	Instructional Assistants Salaries	\$13,283,250		\$13,283,250	\$1,384,367	\$739,966
500-91116	Coach Salaries	\$712,702		\$712,702	\$3,868	\$31,620
540-91117	Transportation Salaries	\$4,515,683		\$4,515,683	\$791,805	-\$306,955
500-91118	Supplemental Program Salaries	\$1,245,628		\$1,245,628	\$364,958	\$56,004
500-91119	Custodial Salaries	\$7,729,888		\$7,729,888	\$1,633,980	\$292,125
500-91120	Maintenance Service Salaries	\$2,089,933		\$2,089,933	\$354,650	\$373,914
500-91121	Administrative Clerical Salaries	\$3,504,115		\$3,504,115	\$822,959	-\$92,419
500-91122	School Clerical Salaries	\$2,530,977		\$2,530,977	\$461,567	\$221,597
500-91123	Non Instructional Salaries	\$2,601,814		\$2,601,814	\$755,702	-\$232,441
540-91124	Crossing Guard Salaries	\$483,239		\$483,239	\$30,190	\$8,160
500-91133	School Nurse Salaries	\$5,407,329		\$5,407,329	\$562,530	\$248,414
500-91134	Educational Support Salaries	\$1,606,277		\$1,606,277	\$549,919	\$34,120
540-97201	Transportation Overtime Salaries	\$713,714		\$713,714	\$102,825	-\$247,012
500-97203	Custodial Overtime Salaries	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0
500-97204	Maintenance Overtime Salaries	\$164,860		\$164,860	\$4,454	\$129,740
500-97205	Support Overtime Salaries	\$75,255		\$75,255	\$47,468	-\$151,324
	Salary Total	\$252,130,963	\$0	\$252,130,963	\$26,777,928	-\$1,107,389
500101-96000	Retirement	\$21,746,307		\$21,746,307	\$22,533,700	\$0
540103-92000	Transportation	\$17,949,410		\$17,949,410	\$17,454,229	\$1,018,633
500122-92000	Athletic Ordinary Maintenance	\$457,707		\$457,707	\$75,757	\$0
500123-96000	Health Insurance	\$53,647,839		\$53,647,839	\$9,655,888	\$329,301
500125-92000	Other Insurance Programs	\$66,030		\$66,030	\$20,129	\$0
500129-96000	Workers Compensation	\$1,983,982		\$1,983,982	\$442,450	\$2,040
500130-92000	Personal Services	\$2,156,939		\$2,156,939	\$1,716,092	-\$297,359
500132-92000	Tuition	\$20,441,132		\$20,441,132	\$22,365,672	\$648,631
500133-92000	Printing & Postage	\$317,459		\$317,459	\$211,506	-\$15,000
500-92204	Instructional Materials	\$2,218,356		\$2,218,356	\$856,081	\$0
500136-92000	Miscellaneous Educational OM	\$3,740,917		\$3,740,917	\$2,582,285	\$48,559
500137-96000	Unemployment Compensation	\$522,637		\$522,637	\$31,201	\$141,436
500146-92000	Building Utilities	\$6,514,506		\$6,514,506	\$5,068,095	-\$446,006
500152-92000	Facilities Ordinary Maintenance	\$4,577,904		\$4,577,904	\$2,837,423	-\$273,914
	Non Salary Total	\$136,341,125	\$0	\$136,341,125	\$85,850,509	\$1,156,321
	Total General Fund Budget	\$388,472,088	\$0	\$388,472,088	\$112,628,437	\$48,932